

# False alarms problem for fire department

By LEIGH WILLIAMS  
Staff Writer

Last month a UNC freshman was arrested on charges of tampering with a fire alarm and stealing a fire extinguisher from Ehringhaus Dormitory.

Because he had no previous criminal record and the charges were for misdemeanors, the Chapel Hill police released him on \$300 unsecured bond.

While tampering with a fire alarm when there is not a fire or stealing a fire extinguisher is not a crime of the magnitude of rape or murder, false alarms are common enough on campus to concern University Police and the Chapel Hill Fire Department.

Between September 1983 and September 1984, the CHFD responded to 850 fire alarms. Thirty percent of those calls were to the UNC campus, according to the fire department call book. Ten percent of those calls were false alarms.

False alarms are expensive and dangerous, said Fire Marshal Joe Robertson. Although the CHFD doesn't have any exact figures on the cost of responding to an alarm, Robertson said the cost is well over \$100.

"When we respond to an alarm in a dorm, about

thirty-five employees are involved; we send three fire engines, one primary one and two to back it up," he said. This does not count the employees at the fire station headquarters or office personnel who fill out reports, he continued.

Each time the CHFD responds to an alarm there is a fair chance of injury too, he said. People may be hurt in the dash to evacuate a dorm. Robertson said one person broke his legs last year while trying to get out of a dorm during a false fire alarm.

Ned Comar, crime prevention officer for University Police, said that fire engines responding to a call were potential traffic hazards. "When you have equipment weighing 20 to 40 tons moving very fast, they may have to run stop lights which is dangerous if drivers don't see or hear the truck coming," he said.

After the fire department responds to a call and finds a false alarm, investigators from the CHFD try to talk to residents who may have seen the person who pulled the alarm, Robertson said. Residence hall assistants send the investigators a report which lists any possible witnesses to the crime, and the fire department investigators go from there, he said.

When there is a suspect in the case, a University police officer and the CHFD investigator interview the person to try to get a confession. Usually, if someone can positively identify the suspect, the magistrate will issue a warrant of arrest, Robertson said.

The arrested person must then appear in district court to decide the case.

If the freshman mentioned above is found guilty of the charges against him, he can probably expect to pay a fine of less than \$500 or to be imprisoned for six months or less.

Recently, however, judges have been imposing more creative punishments, said Comar. "One judge had a student write a paper on the problem of false alarms which he turned in to the University Police. The same person also had to do a certain amount of community work," Comar said.

Robertson said that false alarms on campus seem to happen mostly around midnight when the women's dorms close to male visitors. "Guys seem to use fire alarms as retaliation for being asked to leave," he said. Alcohol sometimes plays a role, too, he said.

## ArtSchool searches for additional space for activities

By MIKE GUNZENHAUSER  
Staff Writer

The ArtSchool in Carrboro will need three times its current space in three years, according to Leah Talley, publicity director.

The non-profit organization currently has 7,000 square feet in Carr Mill Mall. Talley said the Art School needed 21,000 square feet by the time its lease expires in January 1987.

ArtSchool founder and executive director Jacques Menache developed three alternatives. Talley said the school's board of directors will decide in December how to expand facilities.

One proposal is to buy land and construct a new building. Talley said

more than \$1 million.

Other proposals are to rent or buy existing buildings. The ArtSchool is considering Southern Bell's old building on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill and two buildings in the 100 block of Main Street in Carrboro. Talley said they would like the ArtSchool to remain in Carrboro because of community support.

Menache began the ArtSchool in a Carrboro loft in 1974. As programs expanded, the organization moved to Carr Mill Mall in 1979. The ArtSchool presents plays, concerts, movies and puppet shows. The school also offers classes in drama, music, dance and art for children and adults. Current enrol-

the cost of this alternative would be about \$375.

Talley said a capital fund drive would pay for the expansion project. Corporations, businesses and "people who believe in us and the things we offer" will provide funding, she said.

Talley said the new facility would have at least one large auditorium and additional studio, classroom and office space. The facilities in Carr Mill are a large multipurpose room, three studios, a workshop and a small office area.

The ArtSchool also rents office space on Weaver Street. Talley said lack of office space was a problem.

"We're always challenging ourselves to grow," Talley said. "We're doing what we can with what we have."

With expanded facilities, she said the ArtSchool wanted to attract more well-known musicians and artists. The ArtSchool is also committed to increase the number of programs for children.

The ArtSchool is the home of three touring companies. One, Touch Mime Theater, is the only professional mime troupe in North Carolina.

Another group is the Transactors, a four-person company that tours with one-act plays, improvisational theater and acting workshops. The Puppet Express performs for schools and general audiences in North Carolina.

The ArtSchool also maintains an art gallery and holds special events, including an annual Halloween masquerade and a Sunday jazz series.

## Union holds workshops for bodies

The Body Shop, a set of workshops designed to help people make the most out of their body, began Nov. 5 and will continue through Nov. 8 at the Student Union.

## Local artists to compete in art show

The Association for Retarded Citizens of Wake County will sponsor their 17th Annual Art Show and Auction Friday and Saturday at the North Hills Mall in Raleigh. Local artists will compete in various media categories. Entries will be displayed 1 p.m. Friday.

Sponsored by the Carolina Union Weekly Features Committee, the Body Shop will involve aerobics, nutrition, contraception and massages. For more information contact the Union desk.

The live auction will begin Saturday at 1 p.m. The public is invited to view the entries and participate in the auction. Sealed bids for the purchase of individual works will be accepted prior to the auction. Proceeds will benefit ARC programs.

## Governor

said.

Martin called claims that he opposed increased federal funding for the Meals on Wheels program false. He said he supported the 7 percent automatic annual funding increase while opposing the unreasonable 23 percent increase amendment proposed by Ike Andrews, D-4th District.

In a campaign markedly absent of the name-calling and negative advertising characteristic of the Helms-Hunt Senate race, Martin was critical of what he called Edmisten's attempt to discredit the Martin campaign in the closing weeks of the election.

In reference to a smear letter made public by Edmisten two weeks ago, Martin denied any connection between

his campaign and the letter which called Edmisten a "boozier and a womanizer."

Edmisten, who revealed one page of the letter in a recent Raleigh news conference, said the letter was distributed in Guilford County.

Martin said investigations by his staff and The Greensboro News-Record failed to find any Martin supporters in Guilford County who received the letter printed on a Jim Martin for Governor letterhead which was discontinued after his Republican primary victory over Burke County resident Ruby Hooper. He said the only copies of the letter are in the hands of Edmisten and that 40 top Guilford County Martin staff members signed sworn statements that they had no knowledge of the letter.

from page 1

**LOOKING FOR A HORSE?**  
WHY NOT ADOPT ONE?  
For details, write:  
Bureau of Land Management  
350 S. Pickett Street  
Alexandria, VA 22304

**March of Dimes SAVES BABIES**  
HELP FIGHT BIRTH DEFECTS

## Jackson's last-day cry

From Associated Press reports

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, at an emotional election-eve rally in Atlanta, proclaimed that "we can win this election" and urged supporters of Democrat Walter Mondale not to let pollsters and prognosticators break their spirit.

Jackson's downtown rally came less than 24 hours before the polls opened in today's election. Georgia Republican leaders also took the chance for some final-day campaigning yesterday, touring the state in support of President Reagan and other GOP candidates.

Jackson, speaking to a racially mixed crowd of 2,000 office workers and inner city residents in Atlanta's Central City Park, discounted Mondale's second-place standing in the polls, some of which showed him 11 to 25 percentage points behind.

"We can win this election. Don't let them break your spirit," Jackson shouted. "This ain't the first time we've been discounted."

"The polls said I wouldn't run for the Democratic presidential nomination, but I did. The polls said I wouldn't finish, but I did. The polls said I wouldn't get 10 percent; I got 23 percent. The polls said Truman wouldn't win, but he did. The polls said John Kennedy wouldn't win, but he did."

"Now they say Mondale won't win. But he will."

## Martin attacks Edmisten

RALEIGH — Republican Congressman Jim Martin said yesterday that Democratic Attorney General Rufus Edmisten's campaign handed out last-minute letters distorting his record to "trick" people into voting for Edmisten.

Martin, at a news conference at Raleigh-Durham Airport during a statewide campaign swing, said a letter signed by present and past presidents of the North Carolina Association of Educators contained five false statements and two half-truths.

A spokesman for the NCAE said the organization would stand by its letter.

"I'd give it a grade of 45," Martin

## News in Brief

said. "Maybe they were plagiarizing somebody else's test paper."

Martin said that letter and one signed by four past presidents of the North Carolina State Employees Association came from the Edmisten campaign, started with the same statement and had nearly identical middle paragraphs.

"If this is the best they can do at this late stage of the campaign, it's a sign of desperation," he said.

## Last-day campaigns

North Carolina's Senate combatants mounted their last-day trips across the state yesterday, with Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., stressing ties to President Reagan and challenger Jim Hunt calling Helms an extremist.

In the gubernatorial race, attorney general Rufus Edmisten said opponent Jim Martin would not represent all of North Carolina, while Martin charged Edmisten with distributing information that distorted his record.

Hunt, a two-term Democratic governor, said North Carolina deserves "a positive and constructive representative instead of an extremist who pushes radical causes."

Helms, a two-term senator, accused Hunt of being "desperate . . . furious . . . frustrated . . . frightened."

A Gallup Poll released Saturday showed Helms leading Hunt with 49 percent to 46 percent and 5 percent undecided. With a margin of error of 3 percent, the pollsters said Helms' lead was statistically insignificant.

Flanked by two of his daughters and three of his grandchildren at a Raleigh news conference, Helms blasted a 30-minute television commercial aired statewide by the Hunt campaign Sunday. The commercial praises Hunt's record and goals, repeated his allegations that Helms is a tool of the extreme right and the rich, such as oil billionaire Nelson Bunker Hunt of Texas.

## Dorms

from page 1

Although the status of the new dormitory has not yet been decided, Kuncel said many want it to be coed.

Mark Stafford, RHA president, had mixed feelings about the changes. "This solves the ratio, but not the shortage," he said. "I have to remember that although the males affected are my constituents, so are the girls still on the waiting list. There is not a good way to deal with the housing shortage."

"I think the department did the best job they could," said Mike Deimler, Old Campus governor. Initially, Deimler said he thinks residents will be upset about the decision, but once they understand the rationale, they will become more willing to accept it.

"This option is as equitable and as fair as any," he said.

Deimler served on the committee that considered the different proposals.

"They spent hours deliberating about the residents' needs and desires," he said. "They should be commended on their sensitivity of students' needs."

## For the record

In yesterday's article, "Senior class gift to include sculpture" (DTH, Nov. 5) Thomas Kopley should have been identified as gift committee chairman. The DTH regrets the error.

# ITZA COMING!

## Nov. 7th

CAMPUS DINING SERVICE  
PRESENTS



ON-CAMPUS DELIVERY

GREAT PIZZA

May Use Meal Cards or Cash  
Hours: Monday thru Sunday  
7:00 PM to 12 Midnight

## 966-3000

KEEP THIS NUMBER FOR HANDY REFERENCE

# ARA

## Do You Have SKI ADDICTION?



## The Symptoms . . .

- \*Sweaty palms every time the mercury drops below 50°
- \*Clenching your stomach as the first flake falls
- \*An aching head at the sight of skis on someone else's car.

... It's ski addiction, and every season you and your friends catch it. You can't wait to hit the slopes, take the first run, feel the wind bite your face. Where do you cure these incredible urges?

## The Cure . . .

Canaan. We are the Treatment Center for your ski addiction.

We guarantee fast relief with exciting downhill, 180° of annual snowfall and our fantasti package designed for students . . . take a look:

- 5 Full Days of Skiing
- 5 Nights Lodging
- 9 Meals
- 4 Fantaski Parties

per person based on four people in a room. Double occupancy available at slightly higher rate. Offer available on specified holidays and student vacations. Tax not included.

So pile yourselves, your equipment, and your incredible, undeniable symptoms of ski addiction into your car and head for Canaan - the Treatment Center for your ski addiction.

Any student interested in being a college representative for Canaan Valley Resort State park, call (304) 866-4121 ex. 2681.

Canaan . . . Treat Yourself.

Write us today for our free color brochure.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
Canaan Valley Resort State Park  
Route 1, Box 39  
Davis, West Virginia 26260  
Call (304) 866-4121

